

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Siring et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: COVER CONNECTOR

Docket No.: 706649US1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

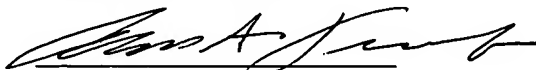
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Form PTO/1449 are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), i.e., within three (3) months of the filing date of the present application.

While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Because the present application is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith. Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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Dated: January 21, 2004  
CIMS 483-02-19

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	N/A
Filing Date	Filed Herewith
First Named Inventor	Siring et al.
Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	N/A
Attorney Docket Number	706649US1

Sheet 1 of 1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	US- 4,904,107	02-27-1990	Fukukawa et al.	
	2	US- 5,409,320	04-25-1995	Maury et al.	
	3	US- 5,615,967	04-01-1997	Keith Hellon	
	4	US- 5,743,669	04-28-1998	Fujita et al.	
	5	US- 5,876,148	03-02-1999	Jakob Kraps	
	6	US- 6,206,604	03-27-2001	Dembowsky et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	7	EP 0902198	03-17-1999	Dembowsky et al		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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